

33 Their father recognized it immediately. "Yes," he said, "it is my son's robe. A wild animal must have eaten him. Joseph has clearly been torn to pieces!" 34 Then Jacob tore his clothes and dressed himself in burlap. He mourned deeply for his son for a long time. 35 His family all tried to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "I will go to my grave mourning for my son," he would say, and then he would weep...  
(Genesis 37 NLT)

When Joseph was taken to Egypt by the Ishmaelite traders, he was purchased by Potiphar, an Egyptian officer. Potiphar was captain of the guard for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt.

2 The Lord was with Joseph, so he succeeded in everything he did as he served in the home of his Egyptian master. 3 Potiphar noticed this and realized that the Lord was with Joseph, giving him success in everything he did. 4 This pleased Potiphar, so he soon made Joseph his personal attendant. He put him in charge of his entire household and

everything he owned. 5 From the day Joseph was put in charge of his master's household and property, the Lord began to bless Potiphar's household for Joseph's sake. All his household affairs ran smoothly, and his crops and livestock flourished. 6 So Potiphar gave Joseph complete administrative responsibility over everything he owned...

Joseph was a very handsome and well-built young man, 7 and Potiphar's wife soon began to look at him lustfully. "Come and sleep with me," she demanded.

8 But Joseph refused. "Look," he told her, "my master trusts me with everything in his entire household. 9 No one here has more authority than I do. He has held back nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God."

10 She kept putting pressure on Joseph day after day, but he refused to sleep with her, and he kept out of her way as much as possible. 11 One day, however, no one else was around when he went in to do his work. 12 She came and grabbed him by his cloak, demanding, "Come on, sleep with me!" Joseph tore himself away, but he left his cloak in her hand as he ran from the house...

19 Potiphar was furious when he heard his wife's story about how Joseph had treated her. 20 So he took Joseph and threw him into the prison where the king's prisoners were held, and there he remained. 21 But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love. And the Lord made Joseph a favorite with the prison warden.

22 Before long, the warden put Joseph in charge of all the other prisoners and over everything that happened in the prison. 23 The warden had no more worries, because Joseph took care of everything. The Lord was with him and caused everything he did to succeed.

(Genesis 39 NLT)

How do you navigate your way through that disaster?!

▪ \_\_\_\_\_ God

He is either working His will to turn your challenge for your good or He isn't. He said He is.

▪ \_\_\_\_\_ my free choice to walk in the will of God.

The will of God for my life has more to do with \_\_\_\_\_ I am, than \_\_\_\_\_ I am.

Who I am is entirely about my \_\_\_\_\_, not what others do to me out of my \_\_\_\_\_.

Walking in the will of God means;

I am \_\_\_\_\_ towards Him.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ /willing to \_\_\_\_\_ as He \_\_\_\_\_.

"Honesty guides good people; dishonesty destroys treacherous people."  
(Proverbs 11:3 NLT)

"The integrity of the upright (Godly) guides them."  
(Proverbs 20:7 NLT)

Challenge:

- 1) Is there a sad story you keep telling that God is trying to write a new resilient ending for?
- 2) WHO will I be?
- 3) Name it: \_\_\_\_\_ Time to program Jesus as your Waypoint and find your way back to Him.

## Life Group Homework

For the week of February 23, 2020

### MY STORY

- 1) What was your least favorite food as a child? Do you still hate it, or do you love it now?
- 2) What was your takeaway from last week's Life Group?

### QUICK REVIEW

- 3) Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, what caught your attention?

### DIGGING DEEPER

In Chapter 37, Joseph's brothers' jealousy grows to the point where they determine to kill Joseph. However, Ruben, the oldest son, convinces them otherwise. Instead, they sell Joseph to some slave traders and we pick up the story from there.

Read Genesis 39:1-6:

- 4) What did the Lord do for Joseph when he was sold?
- 5) How could Joseph's attitude have helped or harmed his standing with Potiphar?

- 6) What are the results of Joseph's work?

**Read Genesis 39:6b-12:**

- 7) What could it have felt like to be Joseph, experiencing daily pressure from Potiphar's wife?
- 8) What circumstances make this situation more difficult for Joseph than it would be if you and I experienced something similar in our workplace?
- 9) What is at the heart of Joseph's response to Potiphar's wife?
- 10) What did Joseph ultimately have to do to remain faithful to God?

**Read Genesis 39:13-24:**

- 11) What was the result of Joseph's faithfulness to God?
- 12) Why is the kind of integrity that Joseph demonstrated so difficult for many?

**TAKING IT HOME**

For Joseph, the road God used to fulfill his dream had to go through Potiphar's house. His ultimate destination was to save lives as the second in command in Egypt. But without being in prison, he would not have been exposed to the chief baker and cup bearer to the king. He needed to take this road for God to open the right doors for him to walk through. But Joseph needed to maintain the right posture of his heart toward God and his circumstances.

- 13) Joseph had to practice acceptance of his circumstances. What does that kind of acceptance look like in your life?
- 14) How can we practically apply the idea of resilience that we learn from Joseph to our lives?

Resilient is defined as: tending to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.

- 15) What circumstances are you facing that feel hard? How can you posture your heart towards God differently?
- 16) What will you start doing differently to increase your resilience as a result of these truths found in Joseph's story?

**CHAIR TIME TOOL**

Read Genesis Chapter 37 and 39 and pray through the following questions.

- 1) What heart attitude of Joseph does God want me to adopt?
- 2) How can I be more resilient in my circumstances?
- 3) How does God want me to posture my heart differently towards Him?

**RESILIENT**

**From Beginning to End**

The Story of Joseph Walking with God

PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

February 23, 2020

Resilient: "A person able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions."

**The voice of the Resilient person who walks with God:**

*"You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good."*  
*(Genesis 50:20 NLT)*

New Testament Verses come to mind regarding the sovereignty of God working in our lives.

*"We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."*  
*(Romans 8:28 NLT)*

**Thread:** Your Father in heaven offers you more than a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Getting to God's Waypoint with resilience:**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ yourself for a \_\_\_\_\_ season than you want.
- 2) The path to the \_\_\_\_\_ calls for more of me than I will want to \_\_\_\_\_. BE \_\_\_\_\_ ANYWAY!
- 3) God being our Waypoint means \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ when they are given.
- 4) Two \_\_\_\_\_ shaping my life:
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
Working His \_\_\_\_\_ to turn your \_\_\_\_\_ for your \_\_\_\_\_.
  - My free \_\_\_\_\_.  
Walking in the will of God.